

Patent claims

1. A printer (2) for printing out a report relating to data recorded by a tachograph (1) in a commercial vehicle, comprising a supply (9) of printing medium (10), comprising a medium transport device (15) by means of which printing medium (10) can be conveyed in an output transport direction (12), comprising a control unit (3) which controls at least the medium transport device (15), characterized in that the control unit (3) is designed such that it activates the medium transport device (15) in such a way that the medium transport device (15) carries out a rest state transport at periodic intervals, within which, even without the presence of a print job (6), the medium transport device (15) transports the printing medium (10) in and/or counter to an output transport direction (12).
2. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the conveying travel (40) of the rest state transport of the printing medium (10) in one direction is between 0.5 mm and 30 mm.
3. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the control unit (3) is designed such that it activates the medium transport device (15) during the rest state transport in such a way that the printing medium (10) is initially conveyed from an initial position (30) counter to the output transport direction (12) and is then transported back into the initial position (30) in the output transport direction (12).

4. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that the printing medium (10) of the supply (9) is rolled up as a coiled strip (16).

5. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3 or 4, characterized in that the printer (2) is designed as a thermal printer and the printing medium (10) as thermal printing paper (20).

6. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, characterized in that the printer (2) has a print head (7), the printing medium (10) is fed to the print head (7) by means of a pressure roller (8), and the pressure medium (10) rests on the pressure roller (8).

7. The printer (2) as claimed in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, characterized in that the control unit (3) is designed in such a way that, at the start of an activation of the printer (2) caused by means of a print job (6), activation is initially carried out in such a way that the rest state transport takes place before the print job (6) is processed.

8. A method for controlling a printer (2) in order to print out a report relating to the data recorded by a tachograph (1) in a commercial vehicle, characterized in that, even without a print job (6), a medium transport device (15) transports the printing medium (10) in and/or counter to an output transport direction (12) at periodic intervals during rest state transport.

9. The method as claimed in claim 9, characterized in that that the conveying travel (40) of the rest state transport of the printing medium (10) in one direction is between 0.5 mm and 30 mm.
10. The method as claimed in claimed 10, characterized in that, during the rest state transport, the printing medium (10) is initially conveyed from an initial position (30) counter to the output transport direction (12) and is then transported back into the initial position (30) in the output transport direction (12).
11. The method as claimed in claim 9 or 10, characterized in that the printing medium (10) of the supply (9) is rolled up as a coiled strip (16).
12. The method as claimed in claim 9, 10 or 11, characterized in that the printer (2) is designed as a thermal printer and the printing medium (10) as thermal printing paper (20).
13. The method as claimed in claim 10 or 11, characterized in that the printing of the printing medium (10) is carried out by means of a print head (7), the printing medium (10) is fed to the print head (7) by means of a pressure roller (8), and the printing medium (10) rests on the pressure roller (8).
14. The method as claimed in claim 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13, characterized in that, at the start of an activation of

the printer (2) caused by means of a print job (6), the rest state transport takes place before the print job (6) is processed.

- 5 15. The method as claimed in claim 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14, characterized in that the rest state transport is carried out at periodically repeating intervals of between 10 hours and 40 hours.